*Fall in the price of paddy and cocoanuts.*

36 *Mr. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Municipal Councils*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have made any investigation into the cause of the fall in the price of paddy and cocoanuts, and, if so, what; and

(*b*) whether they have made any attempt to find out markets for Travancore cocoanuts?

Mr K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): (*a*) The Economic Depression Enquiry Committee have, during the cource of their enquiry, made an investigation into the causes of the fall in the prices of cocoanuts and paddy, and their findings have been recorded in paragraphs 87 and 94 of their report.

(*b*) The matter is receiving consideration.

Mr. KATTIYATTU SIVARAMA PANICKAR (*Vaikam cum Shertallai*): May I know whether.....

Mr. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: On a point of order, Sir. I have got the first right to ask supplementary questions.

PRESIDENT: Of course, you have.

Mr. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know what sort of consideration this question is receiving at the hands of Government?

Mr K. GEORGE: There are various ways in which the prices of our products can be raised. One is by improving market facilities and by finding out new markets. Another is by finding out alternative crops or substitutes for our existing crops. Government are directing their attention towards such matters.

Mr. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Have the Government taken any concrete steps?

Mr. K. GEORGE: Government, as I said, are considering these matters. So far as I know, except perhaps in America, no Government has taken any concrete steps for the raising of prices.

Mr. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know if the attention of Government has been drawn to the paddy pest prevailing in South Travancore during the last two years?

Mr. K. GEORGE: No.

Mr. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: May I know whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a leading article on this subject which appeared very recently in a South Travancore Tamilian paper?

Mr. K. GEORGE: My attention has not been drawn to it.

Mr. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: The attention of Government?

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MR. K. GEORGE: No.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: Are the Government subscribing to that paper?

MR. K. GEORGE: I claim notice.

MR. KATTIYATTU SIVARAMA PANICKAR: My I know whether the Trade Agent at Bombay has found out new markets for Travancore products?

MR K. GEORGE: I claim notice.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): May I know whether the Government are maintaining a publicity bureau in the Huzur Secretariat?

MR. K. GEORGE: There is a Publicity Officer attached to the Secretariat.

MR. P. PADMANBHAN TAMPI: May I know the object of maintaining such an officer?

PRESIDENT: This is not the time for such a thorough dissection of the Publicity Officer or the publicity bureau. Time may come for it.

MR. A. N. VISVANATHA PILLAI (*Quilon* cum *Karunagapalli*): സിലോൺ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് പ്രചരണജോലി ചെയ്യുന്നതായിട്ടറിയാമോ?

MR. K. GEORGE: About what? The question must be more explicit.

MR. A. N. VISVANATHA PILLAI: നാളികേരത്തിനു മാർക്കറ്റ് കണ്ടുപിടിക്കാൻ സിലോൺ ഗവണ്മെൻറ പ്രചരണജോലി ചെയ്യുവരുന്നതായി അറിയാമോ?

MR. K. GEORGE: Yes.

MR. A. N. VISVANATHA PILLAI: അതുപോലെ തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവണ്മെൻറ വല്ലതും ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. GEORGE: Not at present.

MR. A. N. VISVANATHA PILLAI: അങ്ങിനെ എന്തെങ്കിലും ചെയ്യേണ്ടതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ

MR. K. GEORGE: The matter is receiving consideration.

*Circumstances under which Mr. R. S. Subrahmanya Pillai's application for Kuthakapattom lease was allowed.*

37. *MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether Survey No 5473, a tank bed in A Division, Neendakara pakuthi, was proclaimed for sale before receipt of Mr. R. S. Subrahmanya Pillai's application for grant of Kuthakapattom;

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